

Alerta de Artículos Recientes y Sitios en Internet en Política, Democracia y Derechos Humanos

**01/06
Febrero 15, 2006**

Estimado(a) señor(a):

Tenemos el agrado de presentarle una bibliografía en **POLITICA, DEMOCRACIA Y DERECHOS HUMANOS** como parte de nuestro Servicio de Alertas, que esperamos sea de su interés. Asimismo, una relación de sitios en Internet sobre estos temas.

ADMINISTRACIÓN DE JUSTICIA:

1. MEASURING JUDICIAL PERFORMANCE IN LATÍN AMERICA.
Joseph L. Staats, Shaun Bowler and Jonathan T. Hiskey. "Latin American Politics and Society" – Winter 2005

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

An increasing number of development scholars and policymakers are recognizing the importance of Latin American judicial reforms in shaping the ultimate outcome of the region's "dual transition." We can hardly begin to assess the conditions in which judicial systems are likely to improve, however, unless we have a means to measure judicial performance systematically across countries, say the authors. This article offers just such a comprehensive cross-national measure of judicial performance for Latin America.

2. ACCESO A LA JUSTICIA: REFORMA JUDICIAL EN RWANDA.
Vicki Miles-LeGrange. Obtenido de Internet:
<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itdhr/1205/ijds/lagrange.htm>

La independencia del Poder Judicial es necesaria para garantizar a todos los ciudadanos el acceso a la justicia, afirma la autora del presente artículo. La jueza Vicki Miles-LeGrange relata sus experiencias para ayudar a sus homólogos a reformar el sistema judicial de Rwanda después del genocidio, para que los ciudadanos rwandeses tengan mayor acceso a los tribunales. LeGrange es jueza del tribunal federal del distrito occidental de Oklahoma, ex miembro de la Comisión Internacional de Relaciones Judiciales de la Conferencia Internacional Judicial de Estados Unidos y ex presidente del Grupo de Trabajo de África (1999-2005).

AMÉRICA LATINA:

3. HUGO BOSS. Javier Corrales. "Foreign Policy" – January/February 2006

As the 20th century drew to a close, Latin America seemed to have escaped its reputation for military dictatorships. Polls in the region indicated growing support for democracy, and the climate seemed to have become inhospitable for dictators.

Then came Hugo Chavez, elected president of Venezuela in December 1998. He had attempted a coup six years earlier. When that failed, he won power at the ballot box and is now approaching a decade in office. He has concentrated power, harassed opponents, punished reporters, persecuted civic organization, and increased state control of the economy. He has also found a way to make

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

authoritarianism fashionable again, if not with the masses, with at least enough voters to win elections, says the author.

4. FURTHERING DEMOCRACY IN MEXICO. Enrique Krauze. “Foreign Affairs” – January/February 2006

As it approaches its first presidential election in the post-PRI era, Mexico is at a crossroads: it could either consolidate democracy and proceed with needed reforms or fall back into a familiar state of crisis. Which way it goes will depend above all on the candidates of the three major political parties, who must rise above their short-terms interests to further the nation’s progress toward democratic stability, explains Mr. Krauze.

5. IS WASHINGTON LOSING LATIN AMERICA? Peter Hakim. “Foreign Affairs” – January/February 2006

For nearly a decade, U.S. policy toward Latin America has been narrowly focused on a handful of issues, such as China’s growing influence in the region and the power of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. Latin Americans want economic ties with the United States but feel slighted by Washington and uneasy about the U.S. role in the world. The costs of the estrangement will be high for both sides, says the author.

6. THE REALITY OF VIRTUAL REALITY: THE INTERNET AND GENDER EQUALITY ADVOCACY IN LATIN AMERICA. Elisabeth Jay Friedmann. “Latin American Politics and Society” – Fall 2005

This article examines the internet’s potential to democratize gender equality advocacy in Latin America. Based on field research in Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico, it challenges the assumption that the internet’s horizontal organization and widespread dissemination inevitable lead to great democratization, explains the author.

DEMOCRACIA:

7. LA CIUDADANÍA Y EL BUEN GOBIERNO DEMOCRÁTICO. Ralph Ketcham. Obtenido de Internet:

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itdhr/1205/ijds/ketcham.htm>

El autor examina dos modelos de ciudadanía: uno motivado por el propio interés y el otro inspirado en el bien público. “El modelo inspirado en el bien público,” afirma, “requiere que los ciudadanos con intereses privados también tengan conocimiento del bien público y se interesen en promoverlo.” Ralph Ketcham es catedrático emérito de Historia, Asuntos Públicos y Ciencia Políticas de la Escuela Maxwell de Ciudadanía y Asuntos Públicos de la Universidad de Siracusa, en Siracusa, Nueva York.

8. LA FUNCIÓN ESPECIAL DE LA LIBERTAD ECONÓMICA EN UNA DEMOCRACIA. Ian Vásquez. Obtenido de Internet:
<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itdhr/1205/ijds/vasquez.htm>

“La libertad económica permite la existencia de fuentes de riqueza independientes que sirven tanto para equilibrar el poder político como para alimentar una sociedad pluralista,” dice el autor Ian Vásquez. En este artículo, nos presenta pruebas que demuestran que en los países con las economías más libres, los ciudadanos disfrutan asimismo de niveles de vida comparativamente altos. Además, examina la acción recíproca entre el estado de derecho y la libertad económica. Vásquez es director del Proyecto sobre Libertad Económica Mundial del Instituto Cato, en Washington, D.C., y miembro no permanente del Consejo de Relaciones Exteriores.

9. PERCEPTIONS OF POLITICAL CORRUPTION IN LATIN AMERICAN DEMOCRACIES. Damarys Canache and Michael E. Allison. “Latin American Politics and Society” – Fall 2005

Political corruption poses a serious threat to the stability of developing democracies by eroding the links between citizens and governments. Using data on national levels of corruption and individual opinion, this study finds that Latin Americans are quite aware of the seriousness of corruption in their countries. The ensuing question is whether citizens can connect their views about corruption to appraisals of their authorities, institutions and of democracy more generally, say the authors.

10. BABEL IN DEMOCRATIZATION STUDIES. Ariel C. Armony and Hector E. Schamis. “Journal of Democracy” – October 2005

Recent works on regime types have led to confusion and a tendency to overstate the

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

differences between established and newer democracies, argue the authors.

11. STRONGER LEGISLATURES, STRONGER DEMOCRACIES. M. Steven Fish. "Journal of Democracy" – January 2006

Evidence from the post-communist countries shows that the strength of the legislature may be the institutional key to democratic consolidation, says the author.

DERECHOS HUMANOS:

12. THE RIGHT TO A GREEN FUTURE: HUMAN RIGHTS, ENVIRONMENTALISM, AND INTERGERATIONAL JUSTICE. Richard P. Hiskes. "Human Right Quarterly" – November 2005

This article develops an argument for intergenerational justice within the language of human rights, specifically the human right to a safe environment. After acknowledging the difficulties associated with such an argument, the author presents a new approach rooted in pragmatist philosophy that established environmental rights as "emergent human rights." Accepting the validity of such emergent rights carries several beneficial consequences both for the philosophy of human rights and for its practice.

13. ENDING POVERTY IN AFRICA: WE ARE NOT THERE YET. Jeffrey Sachs. "New Perspectives Quarterly" – Fall 2005

Africa's investment priorities lie in four main areas: health, education, agriculture and infrastructure. All four of these crisis areas can be solved. The needed investment is known and practical. The problem is mainly that African countries cannot afford these investments on their own, explains the author.

DROGAS Y NARCOTRÁFICO:

14. FUGITIVE TRAFFICKERS FROM COLOMBIA FIND SAFETY IN VENEZUELA. Steven Dudley. "Miami Herald" – December 17, 2005

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

Venezuela is becoming a refuge for Colombia drug traffickers seeking to avoid capture in their neighboring homeland, according to several Venezuelan and foreign counter-drug officials, explains the author.

ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA:

15. ASSESSING THE QUALITY OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT WEB SITES. James K. Scott. "State and Local Government Review" – Vol 37, No. 2, 2005

The author, associate professor at the University of Missouri/Columbia, notes that municipal governments have a reputation for quickly adopting new technologies to serve their constituents, and have been at the forefront of developing web sites to provide public services. This study analyzes twenty U.S. municipal government sites by five quality measures: transparency, easy of citizen-to-government transactions, connectivity, personalization, and usability. Scott notes that his study illustrates the challenges local governments face in maintaining a high-quality web site in a competitive and fast-changing online environment. His research suggests possible changes in the role in improving the quality of municipal governments' web sites that could be played by state governments and the federal government, which currently provides little support in local e-government initiatives.

16. AN ASSESSMENT OF TENURE ON THE U.S. SUPREME COURT. Kevin T. McGuire. "Judicature" – Vol. 89, No. 1, July-August 2005

With an aging Supreme Court, the question of life tenures for Supreme Court justices has been raised. McGuire explores the question of life tenure by looking at the history of the Court as it relates the age. He notes that the ages of appointment and retirement for Supreme Court justices from the nineteenth century to the present has remained relatively unchanged—in contrast to the growing perception that justices are serving longer terms now than in past decades. McGuire concludes that there is no need to create legislation to force justices out of the Court at a certain age.

17. CONDOLEEZZA RICE – DEMOCRACY IS JOB No. 1. Insider

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

Interviews. Obtenido de Internet:

<http://nationaljournal.com/members/news/2006/02/0203insider.htm>

During the past year, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice has emerged as a star of the Bush Cabinet. At home, Americans approve of her job performance in numbers that have politicians speculating about a possible 2008 presidential candidacy, and overseas she is lauded for her diplomatic skills and instincts for multilateral engagement. "National Journal" correspondent James Kitfield recently spoke with Rice. Edited excerpts of the interview appeared in the magazine. The interview is offered in its entirety through Insider Interview.

PAZ Y SEGURIDAD:

18. GUNNING FOR THE WORLD. David Morton. "Foreign Policy" – January/February 2005

The National Rifle Association (NRA), the organization of gun owners in the U.S., is one of the most powerful and well-funded lobbying groups in the country. However, in recent years, it has become a savvy global lobby, advocating gun ownership rights at the United Nations, and assisting pro-gun groups in countries such as Australia and Brazil defeat national gun-control initiatives with slick, well-crafted message in the local media. The author traces the rise of the NRA on the world stage for the formation of the loose international coalition of groups in the 1990s to combat the trafficking of small arms. The NRA realized that successful gun-control legislation in other countries might embolden American gun-control groups, resulting in passing similar laws in the U.S., explains Mr. Morton.

TERRORISMO:

19. THE CHALLENGES OF STRATEGIC TERRORISM. Giandomenico Picco. "Terrorism and Political Violence" – Winter 2005

Terrorism is a multidimensional phenomenon, which is essential for nations to understand as they bland the necessary ingredients of an effective counter-terrorism program, says the author. Al-Qaida as a transnational terrorist organization is substantially different from the Irish Republican Army or Hezbollah, the author

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

argues. While groups such as Al-Qaida may seek a clash between the Islamic world and the West, groups such as the IRA and Hezbollah have a limited, specific objective in both scope and geography. Picco writes that, unlike tactical terrorism, which groups like the IRA and Hezbollah use to achieve a specific goal with their adversaries, Al-Qaida represents strategic terrorism, which is characterized by perpetual conflict and the "never ending struggle," says the author.

VARIOS

20. LA LIBERTAD DE PRENSA. Ellen Hume. Obtenido de Internet: <http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/itdhr/1205/jds/hume.htm>

Los medios de comunicación independientes aseguran la libre circulación de información, lo cual es vital en una sociedad democrática. Tomando ejemplos de diferentes países, la autora esboza las cuatro funciones esenciales de una prensa libre; exigir que los dirigentes gubernamentales rindan cuentas al pueblo, dar a conocer los temas que requieren atención, instruir a los ciudadanos de modo que puedan tomar decisiones fundamentadas, y vincular a la gente en la sociedad civil. Ellen Hume es directora del Centro de Sociedad y Medios de Comunicación de la Universidad de Massachusetts en Boston.

21. THE AVIAN VIRUS: THE CUSP OF AN EPIDEMIC. Laurie Garrett. "Current" – October 2005

Since it first emerged in 1997, avian influenza has become deadlier and more resilient. It has infected 109 people and killed 59 of them. If the virus becomes capable of human-to-human transmission and retains its extraordinary potency, humanity could face a pandemic unlike any witnessed, says the author.

22. THE FLU HUNTER. Michael Rosewald. "Smithsonian" - January 2006

For years, Robert Webster has been warning of a global influenza outbreak. Now governments worldwide are finally listening to him, explains the author.

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

**PAGINAS WEB PARA ENCONTRAR EN INTERNET
INFORMACIÓN SOBRE TEMAS DE POLÍTICA,
DEMOCRACIA Y DERECHOS HUMANOS:**

USINFO – Human Rights

http://usinfo.state.gov/dhr/human_rights.html

USINFO – Democracy

<http://usinfo.state.gov/dhr/democracy.html>

U.S. Department of State

Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

<http://www.state.gov/g/tip>

USA Patriot Act Improved

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/intel/RL33239.pdf>

PBS – “Not for ourselves alone”- The Women’s Suffrage Movement

(Audiovisual)

<http://www.pbs.org/stantonanthony>

Washington Times – Nation/Politics

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/national>

Republican National Committee

<http://www.rnc.org>

Pew Research Center for the People and the Press

<http://people-press.org>

Center for American Women and Politics

<http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~cawp>

International Journal of Constitutional Law

<http://www.icon.oxfordjournals.org>

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

Guide to Foreign and International Legal Databases

http://www.law.nyu.edu/library/foreign_intl

United Nations

International Labor Organization (ILO)

International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (IPEC)

<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/pec/index.htm>

Child Labor Coalition

<http://www.stopchildlabor.org>

End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography, and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes (ECPAT)

<http://www.ecpat.net/eng/index.asp>

Human Rights Watch – Children’s Rights

<http://www.hrw.org/children/labor.htm>

Federal Judicial Center

<http://www.fjc.gov>

Death Penalty Information Center

<http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org>

American Bar Association

<http://www.abanet.org>

National Bar Association

<http://www.nationalbar.org>

Women’s Bar Association of the District of Columbia

<http://www.wbadc.org>

Association For Conflict Resolution

<http://www.acnet.org>

International Court of Justice

<http://www.icj-cij.org>

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.

Human Rights Internet
<http://www.hri.ca/index.asp>

Center for Individual Rights
<http://www.cir-usa.org>

National Right to Life
<http://www.nrlc.org>

Bases de Datos Políticos de las Américas
<http://www.georgetown.edu/pdba/spanish.html>

World Movement for Democracy
<http://www.wmd.org>

OEA – Departamento para Asuntos Democráticos y Políticos
http://www.upd.oas.org/lab/main_spa.html

Basic Readings of U.S. Democracy
<http://usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa/facts/democrac/demo.htm>

Federal Election Commission
<http://www.fec.gov>

Office of Government Ethics
<http://www.usoge.ov/home.html>

Information USA
<http://usinfo.state.gov/usa/infousa>

Compartimos artículos aparecidos en las publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, precisando que nuestro gobierno no necesariamente coincide con las opiniones vertidas.